



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

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Governor Granholm Appoints Patricia Caruso Director of the Michigan Department of Corrections

LANSING – Governor Jennifer M. Granholm today announced the appointment of Patricia Caruso as Director of the Michigan Department of Corrections. Caruso, of Sault Ste. Marie, will succeed Director William S. Overton who will be retiring today. Currently, the Deputy Director of Correctional Facilities Administration within the Department of Corrections, Caruso's appointment becomes effective July 1.

"Pat shares my commitment to inclusive leadership and creative problem solving and will work closely with the other members of Michigan's criminal justice community to make certain that our correctional system protects our citizens while providing offenders the opportunity for rehabilitation," Granholm said. "Pat is an experienced correctional professional who is focused on promoting public safety, maintaining safe and secure correctional facilities and ensuring fiscal responsibility within the state's largest governmental agency. As a former prison warden and county controller she has the perfect mix of toughness and tenacity to lead this vital agency in the 21st century."

Prior to becoming Deputy Director, Caruso served as a Regional Prison Administrator overseeing 13 prisons and eight minimum security camps from Saginaw to the tip of the Upper Peninsula.

Prior to that appointment, she was the warden of the Chippewa and Straits correctional facilities in Kincheloe, Michigan.

She began her career with the Department of Corrections in 1988 as assistant business manager of Kinross Correctional Facility. Later that year, she was promoted to business manager of the Hiawatha Correctional Facility.

Caruso served as Chief Administrative Officer and Controller of Chippewa County from 1983 to 1988.

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Caruso holds a master's degree in comprehensive occupational education from The University of Michigan and received her bachelor's degree in political science and sociology from Lake Superior State University.

Governor Granholm expressed appreciation to departing Corrections Director William S. Overton. "On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, I wish to thank Bill for his more than 30 years of outstanding public service. His many accomplishments have benefited countless individuals across the State of Michigan. I wish him the best during his well deserved retirement," Granholm said.

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